



## **News from the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities September 2011**

### **New study reveals Campbellsville University has over \$93 million economic impact in Taylor County**

**Campbellsville University** has an overall economic impact of \$93 million in Taylor County, according to a new study completed by Younger Associates of Jackson, TN. The study shows that Campbellsville University generates more than \$1.3 million in local tax revenues and 1,258 total jobs (457 direct and 801 indirect). One out of every 10 jobs in Taylor County is supported by CU-related operations. Campbellsville students spend over \$17 million in the local economy each year. To learn more CU's impact on the local economy, visit <http://www.campbellsville.edu/09092011economicimpact>.

### **Berea College ranked #1, other AIKCU members recognized for contributions to public good by Washington Monthly**

**Berea College** has been ranked the #1 liberal arts college in the country by *Washington Monthly* magazine. The *Washington Monthly* rankings are the only college rankings focused exclusively on institutions' contributions to the public good. The rankings focus on three core metrics: social mobility (admitting and graduating low-income students), research and Ph.D. production, and community service.

In addition to Berea College's #1 ranking in the liberal arts category, other AIKCU institutions recognized by Washington Monthly include: **Centre College** (38), **Lindsey Wilson College** (93), and 5 others in the top 200 in the liberal arts category; **University of the Cumberlands** (27) and four others in the baccalaureate college category; **Union College** (53) and **Bellarmino University** (170) in the master's university category; and **Spalding University**, ranked 83 among national universities.

### **UPike partners with Morehead and UK to improve dental health in rural Kentucky**

Governor Beshear recently announced the Appalachian Rural Dental Education Partnership, an effort by the University of Pikeville, Morehead State University and the University of Kentucky to improve dental care in rural Kentucky. The \$650,000 effort, funded by an Appalachian Regional Commission Grant and the participating institutions, will send UK students to the partner schools for education and encourage them to start private dental practices in the region.

## **St. Catharine partners with local school district, ECTC-Springfield to create early college**

**St. Catharine College** has partnered with the Washington County school system, Elizabethtown Community & Technical College – Springfield Campus, Marion County Area Technology Center, Advance Kentucky, and the Kentucky Department of Education to implement one of the most innovative high school college and career readiness systems in Kentucky. The new Washington County Early College Program will assist high school students in becoming college and career ready. Students who complete the Early College Program will be able to graduate from St. Catharine College with either an Associate of Arts (AA) degree in Liberal Arts or an Associate in Applied Science degree (AAS) in Early Childhood Education at the same time they earn their high school diploma.

To prepare for this innovative program, Washington County teachers worked throughout the spring and summer to develop and implement a new curriculum aligned to Kentucky's new Core Academic Standards as well as to the College Board's Advanced Placement standards, the ACT's Quality Core standards, and the course syllabi and expectations of ECTC and St. Catharine. Students in their junior or senior year of high school will have the opportunity to participate in classes led by adjunct college faculty as well as by college professors while the students work to achieve college credits that will place them semesters as well as dollars ahead of their teenaged peers.

## **Kentucky Wesleyan receives \$600K NSF award to increase STEM achievement among under-represented students**

The National Science Foundation recently awarded **Kentucky Wesleyan College** a \$600,000 grant to increase the number of academically talented and financially needy first-generation college students, women and racial/ethnic minorities achieving success in STEM careers. The award will be used to fund scholarships for 39 students: 21 transfers and 18 incoming freshman. In addition to the financial support, KWC will work to improve retention through additional experiential learning opportunities, mentoring, career counseling, and other services. The first 13 students will enroll in fall 2012.

## **Bellarmino, Lindsey Wilson open fall semester with new facilities**

**Bellarmino University** recently completed its transformation into a primarily residential campus with the culmination of the fourth and final phase in its five-year, \$37.3 million Siena Housing Project. Siena Terzo, the new residence facility, cost \$11.5 million and features more than 50,000 total square feet, 128 beds, a new outdoor green space, and a 200-seat dining hall.

**Lindsey Wilson College** opened the semester with a new 156-bed residence hall and a new classroom building that houses LWC's baccalaureate nursing program and nationally accredited School of Professional Counseling. The 26,000-square-foot, two-story building, which cost about \$3 million to build, sits next to the Jim and Helen Lee Fugitte Science Center, creating a science village on LWC's A.P. White Campus.